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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HISASHI SHODA ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN

(Based on PCT/JP01/03267)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: OPTICAL RECORDING

MEDIUM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following text as a separate paragraph on page 1, line 5.

International application PCT/JP01/0326 has not been published in English under

PCT Article 21(2).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 8, through page 9, line 13 as

follows:

All of R_1 in the same ring structure may be the same or different, and each R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, a straight chain or branched alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms (e.g., methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl,

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